



MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC NEWS

June 2022 – Our monthly MNS meeting for June will be held on Thursday, June 16, from 6 to 8 PM at the Mayfair Mall Community Room. The program will be extended non-numismatic show and tell, feel free to bring anything you collect. Safety precautions continue to be followed.

President: Justin Perrault
Secretary: James Kubley
Sgt. at Arms: Dave Herrewig
Trustee '20-'22: Dave Hunsicker
Librarian: Justin Perrault

Vice President: Jim Heinrich
Treasurer: Chris Kantak
Trustee '22-'24: Jordan Heller
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The Milwaukee Numismatic Society, founded in 1934, is the oldest and largest organization in Milwaukee devoted to the study of money. Meetings will be held from 6 to 8 PM in the Mayfair Mall community room on the third Thursday of each month, until further notice..

June Coin of the Month: A pristine 1992 500th anniversary of Columbus silver dollar and Cu-Ni half dollar, issued by the US Mint. You get the two-coin set in original packaging with the CoA, for a starting bid of only \$30. You can't go wrong with this set.



June 2022 MNS President's Message

At last month's meeting if you missed it, we all had a fun time with the auction. All lots sold except for two, some items experiencing very spirited and surprisingly high bids. It was a blast to fill in as auctioneer in Dave's absence. Thanks to everyone who consigned something new and interesting for sale in the auction; those items have now found new collectors to appreciate them.

I am happy to report that the van we have rented for the Club's day trip to the ANA World's Fair of Money is currently at max capacity. If you were late in getting me your name I will add you to the waiting list in the event that someone drops out at the last minute. Just so we are clear, I plan to leave the park and ride lot no later than 7:30 AM that morning, so please strive to arrive by about 7 AM. The sooner everyone is there, the sooner we can leave and beat the morning commute traffic congestion in getting down there. Departure will be from the same location as in year's past: the Park & Ride lot at College Avenue, along the west side of the interstate (southwest corner).

At the last meeting we received two formal applications for membership, from husband and wife duo Raymond and Christine Skrentny. They attended the last few meetings and are very interested to get more involved in the hobby again. A vote will be taken on their applications at the next meeting, and I hope you will join me in welcoming them to the club.

Just a reminder that the next meeting features non-numismatic show and tell for our activity. Please bring something interesting to share, even if it is numismatic related. I am going to bring a very unique and interesting series of items that I collect, something else from my many collections that you would not have given any thought to in a million years. Come to the next meeting to see what it is and be prepared to be somewhat surprised.

Happy Collecting,
Justin J. Perrault
masters1122@yahoo.com
262.613.9996



April 23, 2022, MNS Scout Merit Badge Clinic resumes after a two-year virus hiatus. Thanks to all volunteers (Dave Hunsicker, Bruce Benoit, Bruce Bartelt, Leon Saryan, Gary Bieringer, and Justin Perrault), and to John Wilson who took the photograph.

MN\$ 2022

Schedule

Monthly meetings for 2022 calendar year are ready to proceed as scheduled. Due to changes at Mayfair Mall, our meetings will run from 6:00-8:00 PM on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Room in the lower level of Mayfair Mall. Visitors interested in numismatics are welcome.

Monthly meeting programs

Jan 20:	General Business/Show & Tell
Feb 17:	Tom Casper: Presentation
March 17:	General Business/Show & Tell
April 21:	General Business/Show & Tell
May 19:	Spring Auction
June 16:	Show & Tell-Non Numismatic
July 21:	General Business/Show & Tell
Aug 18:	NO MEETING-ANA Show Bus
Sept 15:	Numismatic Trivia Game
Oct 20:	Autumn Auction
Nov 17:	Raffle Tickets Drawing
Dec 15:	Christmas Party/Bingo/Elections

Annual Dues

Dues for 2022 are \$10. Please pay Treasurer Chris K. at the next meeting, or they can be mailed to MNS, PO Box 26886, Wauwatosa, WI 53226-0886. Thanks to those who have paid. Those who have not paid will be removed from the club's mailing list.

Random Information

MNS is a volunteer organization. We always need new and interesting programs, activities, and helpers to work at events. MNS will also reimburse refreshment expenses up to \$60. To volunteer, please contact Pres. Justin Perrault at 262.613.9996 or VP Jim Heinrich at 262.796.1814. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up by volunteering their time and talent to make the club a success.

2022 Numismatic Events

Aug. 14:	Beaver Dam Coin Show 300 Beichl Ave. (9-3 PM)
Aug. 16-20:	ANA World's Fair of Money Rosemont, IL (10-6 PM)
Aug. 18:	MNS Bus Trip to ANA Show Leave from College Ave. Park & Ride Southwest Lot at 7:30 AM
Oct. 30:	Elgin Coin Club Show Holiday Inn at 495 Airport Rd (9-3 PM)
Nov 13:	MNS Coin Show (9-4 PM) Sheraton Hotel Brookfield

Refreshment Schedule

Jan 20:	Don K.
Feb 17:	Open
March 17:	Jordan H.
April 21:	Dave Hunsicker
May 19:	Justin P.
June 16:	Open
July 21:	Open
August 18:	NO MEETING (ANA Trip)
Sept 15:	Open
Oct 20:	Open
Nov 17:	Open
Dec 15:	Christmas Party

Bronze of Tarsus, Cilicia, (25 mm, 8.55 grams, counterstamped) from 164-27 BC, purchased at the April CSNS show. The obverse shows the seated Tyche of the city facing right with a swimmer; the reverse shows Zeus seated facing left. The obverse is very similar to that seen on contemporary silver coins of Tigranes of Armenia, while the reverse appears on the silver coins of Alexander the Great (thanks to Dan Pelc for help with attribution).



Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Minutes
May 19, 2022

President Justin Perrault called the 1,027th meeting of the MNS to order at 6:04 PM. There were 18 members in attendance and three guests. The president led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. Door prizes were won by: Justin P, Chris S, Chris K, Josh W, and Tom S.

Coin of the Month: Steve J. went home with the coin of the month, an encapsulated Proof 68 silver 1964 Kennedy Half Dollar, with a winning bid of \$40.00.

Minutes: A motion was made and accepted to approve the Minutes of the April meeting as printed in the last newsletter.

Treasurer Report: April showed net receipts of \$40.00, net disbursements of \$2,767.66, with a transfer of \$2,576.97 from the show account to the general operating account (primarily to cover the ANA Seminar Scholarships), and \$17.86 interest, for a net negative net cash flow of \$2,209.80.

Correspondence: Copy of the May 2022 issue of Numismatist was received. One newsletter was returned insufficient address.

Programming: Additional volunteers are needed to bring refreshments through the end of the year. A number of local coin shows are scheduled to occur. The June meeting activity will be general show and tell with an emphasis on non-numismatic related items.

Member Application: Membership applications of Raymond and Christine Skrentny were received with applicable annual dues payment. Vote will be taken on their applications at the June meeting.

New Business: None.

Old Business: The 15 passenger van to the ANA is booked for August 18th. One seat is currently available. The van will leave no later than 7:30 AM that morning from the Park and Ride lot at the southwest corner of I-94 and College Ave. The van will return to the lot that evening around 7:30 PM.

Auction: A break was taken at 6:30 PM for refreshments and lot viewing. Meeting reconvened at 6:50 PM with Justin P. serving as auctioneer.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 PM by President Perrault.

Respectfully submitted by Acting Secretary Gary B.

A Two-Thirds German Thaler with History to Spare

By Dave Herrewig

A wise numismatist noted long ago that it's not always important what a coin is worth; but, rather, what it can tell us. Sixty-plus years ago I purchased a 1691 2/3 thaler from the German Duchy of Brunswick-Lüneburg. It cost the princely sum of \$2 at the coin department in the downtown Milwaukee Gimbel's department store. Years later, I learned that the town my father's family came from was in that duchy, so the duke named on the coin, Ernst August, was likely my ancestors' ruler.

I became interested in learning about the background of the coin, and following is a summary of what I've found so far. Researching this coin leads back to the Holy Roman Empire, a collection of hundreds of principalities, which ruled most of present-day Germany and some neighboring countries until 1806. The lands of the Duchy of Brunswick-Lüneburg were in the north central section of present-day Germany, roughly 150 miles or so west of Berlin.

What about the coin itself? The thaler (taler) was a silver coin produced in the Holy Roman Empire and Prussia from the 16th to 19th centuries. There are lots of them! Germany did not have a strong central government until 1871; so before that time the electors, dukes, counts, bishops, free cities and other principalities issued a huge number of denominations. Noted cataloger John Davenport estimated that there were nearly 3,000 different thalers in the 17th century.

This coin is just under 35 mm in diameter and weighs 13.09 grams. It has a reeded edge, and medallic die orientation. Its diameter is almost halfway between a half dollar and a US silver dollar. Its weight, though, is much closer to silver half dollars. The *Standard Catalog of World Coins* for 1601-1700 (5th Edition) lists it under Brunswick-Lüneburg-Calenburg, KM#340; but doesn't list its official diameter, weight or percent of silver content. The HB initials on the obverse, one letter on both sides of the coat of arms, stand for Heinrich Bonhorst who was the official at the Clausthal mint in the Duchy.



Obverse and Reverse of 1691 Brunswick – Luneberg Thaler (enlarged)

Why is the coin 2/3 of a thaler? The German auction house Künker states that the 2/3 size was a "bridge denomination" between the northern and southern parts of Germany. In the south, merchants preferred the gulden, a silver coin with similar content of precious metal as the 2/3 thaler.

What about the man, Ernst August, whose name is on the coin? He overcame tough odds to become a duke, being the fourth son of a reigning duke. But through a series of circumstances he inherited a duchy. Like other nobles in the Holy Roman Empire, he had military experience fighting the enemies of the Empire. He survived, but later lost three of his sons serving in the armies of the Empire. Shortly after his marriage to the daughter of a high ranking German noble, he was appointed Bishop of Osnabrück; a post that alternated between Catholic clergy and the Protestant nobles in his family. In 1679 his father died and he also became Duke of Brunswick-Lüneburg until his death in 1698.

His titles are shown in the legend on the coin. The obverse states ERNEST:AUGUST:D.G.EP:OSN:D.BR:ETLUNEB (Ernest August By the Grace of God Bishop of Osnabrück, Duke of Brunswick and Lüneburg). The legend on the reverse states "SOLA BONA QUAE HONESTA" (those things alone are good which are honorable); a motto he also used on his full-size thalers issued as bishop and as a duke. There are also the words "Fein Silb" (fine silver). The galloping horse on the reverse was commonly used on Brunswick-Lüneburg coinage.

The reason that the family connected to this coin has a notable presence in history is because of a person who is not represented on it; the wife of Ernst August, known as Sophia of Hanover. She was the daughter of an Elector of the Holy Roman Empire, and a granddaughter of King James I of Great Britain. He's known for commissioning the King James Version of the Bible.

During her life, she was regarded as a well-educated, intelligent, witty woman. Her autobiography of her first fifty years (she lived to age 83) has long been a source for study about the era, and was reprinted as recently as 2013. Because of her grandfather, she was considered a possible heir to the British throne. In 1701 the British Parliament moved Sophia, who was Protestant, to the front of the line by disqualifying 54 Catholics with a better hereditary claim than hers. She did not live to reign in England, but hers and Ernst August's oldest son, George Ludwig, became King George I of Great Britain in 1714. George I was the great-grandfather of King George III, well known to Americans.

Though silent, this coin has a tale to tell.



Ernst August



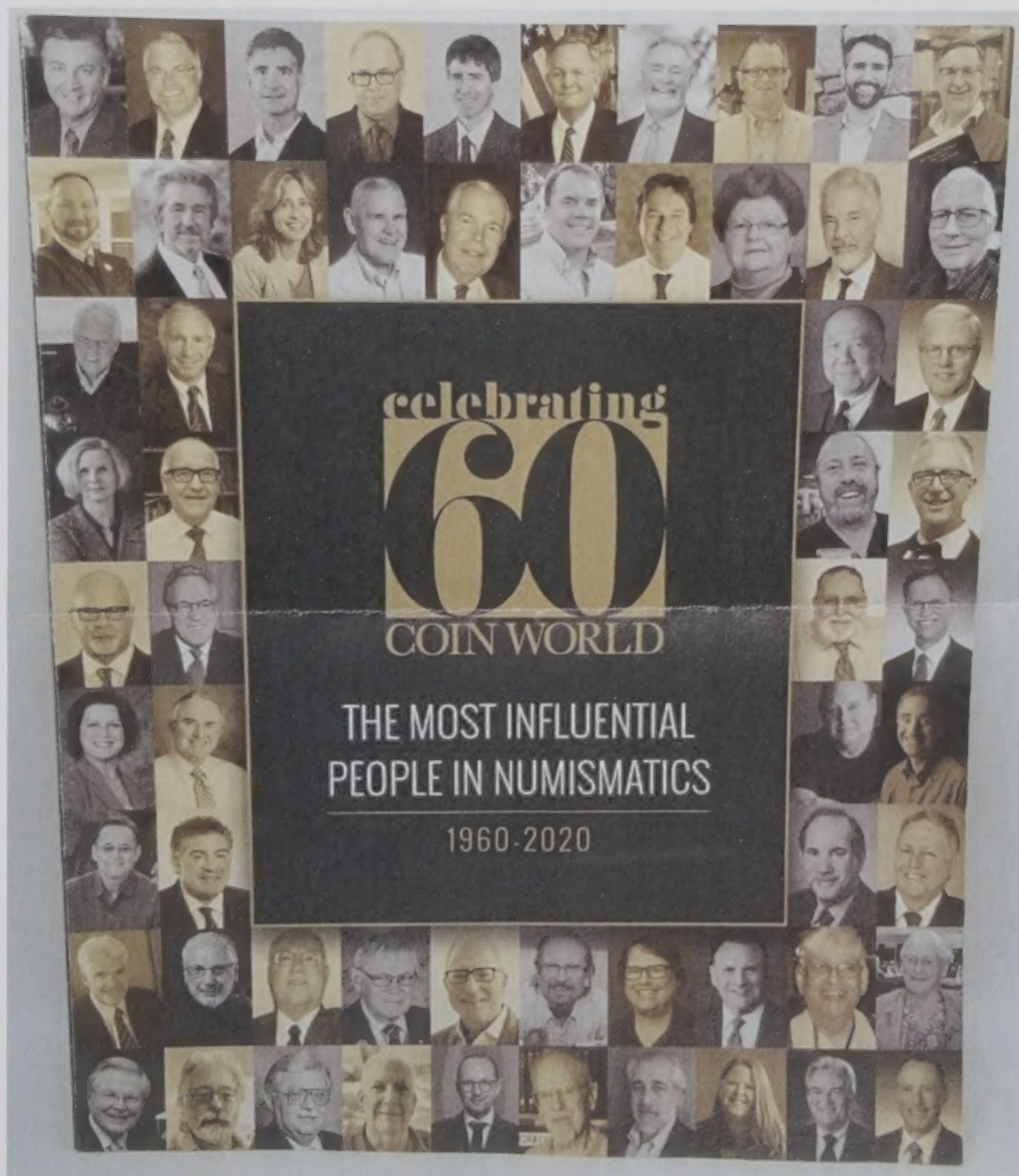
Sophia of Hannover

Influential Numismatists Honored

By Tom Casper

I was fortunate to attend the 2021 summer ANA show in Rosemont, Illinois. Although my goal was to come away with some new exonomia pieces, I picked up a new book on "The Most Influential People in Numismatics" 1960-2020. It was published by Amos Media Company and was available at the Coin World table. While individual numismatic organizations have always honored their distinguished members, this is the first I recall of anyone honoring the best and brightest collectors from across the country during the past sixty years.

The original list of candidates contained several hundred people. Some rules applied such as the candidate had to be living. They also wanted to limit the list to 100. Many of us just think of numismatists as dealers or collectors. They considered people is all walks of numismatics. They could be those who do research, authors who write books, articles, and auction catalogs, people who authenticate coins and paper money, speakers at coin shows, engravers who design coins and those who serve as club officers or hold conventions.



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The final list consisted of 96 profiles. Each person has their picture and a one-page bio in the book. After years of collecting, I was interested in seeing how many I knew or heard of. Some I recognized from reading their articles or reading their blogs. There were other names I didn't recognize which shows the depth of the hobby.

I was most interested in seeing if anyone from my home state of Wisconsin appeared in the list. Their bios didn't identify their home state, but I immediately recognized two from Wisconsin.

Cliff Mishler, Iola, Wisconsin, is very well known among Wisconsin numismatists. He is a current board member of the Numismatists of Wisconsin as well as the ANA. He was President of the Token and Medal Society. He was president of Krause Publications in Iola, which published Numismatic News. They sponsored the Numismatic Ambassador Award and Mishler had the distinct privilege of crisscrossing the country to personally hand out this award. The other candidate is David Harper, like Cliff, also from Iola. He too worked for Krause Publications and was a journalist and editor of Numismatic News for 25 years before retiring in 2019. Over the years he also served as editor of other Krause publications such as Coins Magazine, World Coin News, and Bank Note Reporter. Harper is a familiar face at coins shows as well as an occasional speaker.

Of the 96 talented candidates, 10 were selected to be in the Top 10 Most influential. The factors that were considered were the longevity in the hobby, the total scope of the candidates' accomplishments and their service to the hobby. They bear mentioning here along with one or two of their major achievements:

John Albanese – He and others started the PCGS grading company and later the NGC company and CAC. Q. David Bowers – A professional numismatist for six decades, a prolific writer and director of Whitman Publishing. Ken Bressett – He has been involved in the hobby for 70 years, editor of the Red Book and many others. Jeff Garrett – Founder of Mid-American Rare Coins, President of PNG and ANA and author of several books. David Hall – A full-time dealer and owner of David Hall Rare coins, founding partner of both PCGS and NGC. Steve Ivy – Noted coin dealer. Ron Guth – For 50 years. he has been a collector, dealer, writer and researcher, book author, and creator of CoinFacts. Mark Salzberg – He became CEO of NGC in 1998, joining John Albanese at NGC third party grading. Harvey Stack – Joined the family firm of Stack's in New York in 1947, in 2006 with Q. David Bowers created Stacks Bowers Galleries. Michael "Miles" Standish – Currently VP at NGC, worked as a grader at PCGS and ANACS, creating the first encapsulation holder housing a U.S. coin and author of numerous books.

All of these folks have received numerous awards over the years from various numismatic organizations. Much has changed in hobby of coin collecting since I began 50+ years ago. We now have a plethora of numismatic books, recorded interviews from experts, blogs, coin encapsulation, third-party grading, local to national coins shows, registry sets, bidding in live auctions from home, and the Newman Numismatic Portal, none of which existed when I started collecting. These are the forward-thinking, creative people who have led the way to make numismatics an enjoyable as well as educational life-long hobby. They are most deserving of this additional recognition.